



**MARY LUDWIG HAYS McCAULEY**

**"Molly Pitcher"**

*1754 — 1832*

Born in Trenton on October 13, 1754, Mary "Molly" Ludwig lived on a small dairy farm until her father arranged for her employment as a servant to a doctor in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She was married shortly thereafter to John Hays who, during the Revolution, was present as a member of the 7th Pennsylvania regiment at the battle of Monmouth on June 28, 1778. The day was a hot one and "Molly" who was with her husband, assisted the artillerymen in the battle by bringing drinking water in a pitcher, earning her the nickname "Molly Pitcher." After her husband collapsed from the heat, she took his place and his gun and served heroically for the remainder of the battle. During the last ten years of her life she received a pension of \$40 a year that was authorized by an act of the Pennsylvania Assembly in 1822 in commemoration of her heroism at Monmouth. She died on January 22, 1832.